

INFORMATION LETTER

Not for
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NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members
Only

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WALSH-HEALEY EXEMPTION EXTENDED

Futures Purchases of Specified Canned Fruits and Vegetables Covered Until April 30

All government contracts for futures purchases of a specified list of canned fruits and vegetables let on or before April 30, 1942, will be exempt from the provisions of Section 1 of the Walsh-Healey Act relating to the eight-hour day, according to an order issued by the Secretary of Labor on December 30. This is an extension of the previous order of June 9 which exempted the products for the balance of 1941. Terms of the exemption were detailed in the INFORMATION LETTER of June 12 and June 28.

After the original exemption was granted, on request of the War Department, a committee, consisting of representatives of the War, Navy, and Labor Departments, Office of Production Management, National Canners Association, American Federation of Labor, and the Congress of Industrial Organizations, was appointed to study the problem presented by the award of contracts subject to the Walsh-Healey Act and to make recommendations as to the procedure to follow after termination of the exemption period. The present extension order explains that the committee will not be ready to report its recommendations until some time later, and the extension to April 30 is made to permit the committee time to make its report and suggestions.

The same canned products that were affected by the original exemption are covered by the present extension, namely: Apples, applesauce, apricots, asparagus, lima beans, string beans, beets, blackberries, blueberries, carrots, catsup, cherries, corn, figs, fruit cocktail, grapefruit, grapefruit juice, grapes, loganberries, peaches, pears, peas, pineapple, plums, prunes (fresh and canned), pumpkin, raspberries, chili sauce, spinach, squash, tomato juice, tomato puree, and tomatoes.

New Restrictions Placed on Tin Consumption

In a conservation order issued by the Division of Priorities January 1, drastic limitations are applied to the use of tin, but no restriction is placed on its use for cans and containers, other than restrictions previously made. A conservation order is expected shortly that will deal with production and use of tin containers for food and other purposes.

After March 31 tin is prohibited for the manufacture of a list of 29 items, according to provisions of the January 1 order, and consumption of tin for these 29 items during the period January 1 to March 31 is limited to 50 per cent of the amount used in the corresponding period of 1940.

Items on the prohibited list are tin foil, advertising specialties, toys, art objects, automobile body solder, band and musical instruments, beverage dispensing units, Britannia

metal, buckles, certain building supplies, buttons, chimes and bells, emblems and insignia, eyelets, fasteners, household furnishings, jewelry, novelties and souvenirs, ornaments and fittings, pewter, decorative plating, decorative powder, refrigerator trays, seals and labels, slot, game and vending machines, tin-coated paper, tin oxide in enamelware, and white metal.

ROLE OF USDA DEFENSE BOARDS

Secretary of Agriculture Outlines Their Duties in Canning Vegetable Production Program

Under the program of the Department of Agriculture for increased production of vegetables for canning as announced in the INFORMATION LETTER for December 20, the State USDA Defense Boards have been assigned several important responsibilities, and the Secretary of Agriculture has issued a memorandum outlining the work that these Boards are expected to do. The State Defense Board has the following responsibilities:

1. To recommend to the U. S. Department of Agriculture fair minimum prices to be paid growers by canners. (The State may be divided into two or three definitely defined areas, if substantially different minimum fair prices should be determined for different areas.)

2. After review by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, to publish and notify County Defense Boards of fair minimum prices established for each of the different areas.

3. To certify canners who agree to pay under contracts with growers not less than the established minimum prices.

4. To assist County Defense Boards to obtain the necessary increases in contracted acreage in order to use the full capacity of cooperating canneries in each area.

The memorandum issued by the Department of Agriculture furnishes the following information as to how these activities will be carried out.

"Information based upon available statistics of the Agricultural Marketing Service will be provided to serve as a guide for your recommendations of minimum fair prices to growers made possible by this program. If it is the decision of the State Defense Board to recommend different minimum prices for different areas, the normal price relationship between these areas should be considered. Hence, if this is done, it is important that the Board base the recommendations upon the actual differentials that have existed in the past, and upon careful consideration of a proper relationship between prices to growers in the various producing areas.

"The State Defense Boards are requested to submit not later than January 15 the recommended minimum fair prices for each recommended area in the State. These should be sent in the usual communication channels to the Divisional Offices of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Washington, D. C. After review by the Department of Agriculture,

notification of areas and minimum fair prices will be made to each Board for release to farmers and canners.

"Since grower prices for canning tomatoes are closely related to grower prices for tomatoes for products, the announced minimum fair prices to growers of tomatoes for canning should be released also as the recommended fair prices for tomatoes for products. The Department contemplates no purchases of canned tomato products, however, and recommendations of minimum grower prices for tomatoes for products will receive no direct support through purchases.

"The Department of Agriculture does not guarantee prices to individual growers. This program is based upon contracts between growers and canners, and growers can definitely secure fair prices for their 1942 production under this program only by entering into specific contracts with cooperating canners. As the State Defense Boards are to recommend minimum prices for tomatoes and peas for canning, growers are free to contract at a higher price.

"Canned tomatoes and peas will be purchased by the Department only from canners who have been certified by the State USDA Defense Board as having contracted with growers for at least the minimum fair prices recommended by the Defense Board. Certification is, therefore, a most important phase of the program. Canners should apply for certification to the State Defense Board through the County Defense Boards. Each canning plant must be certified by the State USDA Defense Board before its canned tomatoes and peas will be eligible for sale to the Department.

"Forms for the certification of canners will be provided by the Department. When these have been filled out and certified by the State Defense Board, they should be forwarded through the usual communication channels to the Divisional Office of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Washington, D. C.

"When the local canning areas for tomatoes and peas are established, the State Defense Board should see that the increase in acreage undertaken under the program is kept in line with canning facilities. State and County Defense Boards should help in every way to see that growers and cooperating canners produce and can all the tomatoes and peas that can be handled by available facilities. This is the objective toward which the industry in each State should strive.

"The problem of securing adequate labor supplies may be difficult in many producing areas next year. State and County Defense Boards and Farm Labor Sub-committees of Agricultural Planning Committees, working in cooperation with State Employment Services, are in the best position to help in obtaining labor for harvesting and processing.

"If canning plants within your State are in need of priorities for additional machinery to increase their capacity for processing canned tomatoes and canned peas, every possible assistance will be given to these canners by the Department.

"It is important that the details of this program be given to growers and canners as soon as possible and that State Defense Boards submit their minimum price recommendations not later than January 15."

Price Basis for Tomato and Pea Program

Following are the revised average prices paid by canners for tomatoes and peas for canning in 1940 as reported by the Agricultural Marketing Service. These prices, with such modifications as may later be made by the Agricultural Marketing Service, will be the basis for the minimum prices for 1942 under the agricultural production program. This program provides that the price for tomatoes shall be \$5

above the State average price paid in 1940, and that the price for peas shall be \$17.50 above the 1940 State average.

The following table presents the prices paid in 1940 for tomatoes and peas in the various States:

	Tomatoes, per ton	Peas, per ton
Maine.....		\$32.50
New York.....	\$11.80	31.90
New Jersey.....	15.70	
Pennsylvania.....	13.50	54.50
Ohio.....	10.60	40.50
Indiana.....	10.70	41.10
Illinois.....	12.50	48.90
Michigan.....	10.40	42.30
Wisconsin.....		48.00
Minnesota.....		43.50
Iowa.....	11.50	50.00
Missouri.....	10.70	
Delaware.....	11.60	54.60
Maryland.....	10.50	55.00
Virginia.....	10.90	53.50
Kentucky.....	10.40	
Tennessee.....	12.00	
Arkansas.....	10.20	
Colorado.....	10.80	30.90
Utah.....	9.90	48.30
Washington.....		48.30
Oregon.....		43.80
California.....	12.60	37.90
Other States.....	10.25	54.10
All States.....	11.80	48.13

PREFERENCE GRANTED FARM MACHINES

A-3 Rating Allowed for Materials Needed in Enlarged 1942 Food Production Program

A broad program to make available materials for farm equipment to carry out the Department of Agriculture's 1942 food program was announced December 28 by Donald M. Nelson, Director of Priorities. Effect of the program is to restrict materials available for new farm machinery to an average of approximately 83 per cent of the materials used for similar purposes in 1940, and to permit the use of materials for repair parts at an average rate of about 150 per cent of the 1940 level.

In drafting the program, the Division of Civilian Supply took the view, after consultation with the Agriculture Department, that adequate repair of existing machinery is the first step in the attainment of the 1942 agricultural goal. Therefore, it is intended that a large amount of materials should be made available for repair purposes. Farm organizations throughout the country have been asked to urge farmers to start repairs early.

An A-3 preference rating is made available for materials necessary to produce machinery to turn out food supplies at the rate of 115 per cent of the 1924-1929 level. The program is related both to domestic needs and to foreign requirements under the Lend-lease program.

Preference Rating Order P-95 and Limitation Order L-26 were signed to put the plan into effect. Preference Rating Orders P-32 and P-33, under which ratings of B-1 and A-8, respectively, were assigned, are automatically revoked.

The limitation order covers the period from November 1, 1941, to October 31, 1942. As soon as producers receive copies of the preference rating order, they may apply the new rating to supplies. Conversion of plants to war work was an important factor in determining the extent of the limitation. Under the order, production quotas fixed for various types of machinery can be changed at any time by

the OPM. This provision is necessary so that war burdens can be shifted equitably and quickly.

The program, drafted by the Division of Civilian Supply and approved by the Supply, Priorities and Allocations Board, is designed to make available to the country's farmers the machinery necessary to achieve the Department of Agriculture's program. Production of machinery not considered essential to this program will be curtailed in varying amounts.

With the A-3 rating assigned, it is expected that farm equipment manufacturers can obtain 1,123,916 tons of critical materials for new machines for domestic use, 497,112 tons for domestic repair parts and 172,614 tons for new machines and repair parts for export purposes.

A schedule of permissible production on every type of farm equipment has been sent to all manufacturers and to county agents of the Department of Agriculture. It was worked out in conference with industry representatives, the Department, and other interested government agencies. Some of the products on this schedule, and the rate at which they can be manufactured, expressed as percentages of each manufacturer's 1940 output, follow. Where more than one percentage is expressed, more than one type of machine is specified:

Corn planters, 35, 63, 100, 84 per cent; potato planters, 58 per cent; transplanters, 124 per cent; beet drills, 57 per cent; broadcast seeders, 68, 72, 100 per cent; fertilizing distributors, 83 per cent; lime spreaders, 82, 99 per cent; manure spreaders, 99, 107 per cent; other planting, seeding, and fertilizing machinery (expressed in terms of total weight of all metals and rubber), 88 per cent; attachments and parts for all the foregoing items (total weight), 140 per cent.

Corn binders, 76 per cent; corn pickers, 134, 86 per cent; potato diggers, 100, 78 per cent; pea and bean harvesters, 105 per cent; beet lifters, 84 per cent; attachments and parts for these, and other harvesting machinery (expressed in terms of total weight of all metals and rubber), 160 per cent.

Pea and bean threshers, 106 per cent; corn shellers, 75, 95, 33, 46 per cent; corn huskers and shredders, 58 per cent; potato sorters and graders, 86 per cent; cider mills and fruit presses, 87 per cent; other machines for preparing crops for market or use (total weight of all metals and rubber), 90 per cent; attachments and parts for this group, 140 per cent.

Sprayers, 97, 85, 100, 98 per cent; spray pumps, 96 per cent; attachments and parts for spraying equipment (total weight), 140 per cent.

Dusters, 103, 94, 100 per cent; attachments and parts (total weight), 140 per cent.

Other classifications of farm equipment receiving specific quotas under the limitation order include plows and listers, cultivators and weeders, haying machinery, engines, elevators, water systems, barnyard and poultry farm equipment, farm wagons and trucks, dairy machinery.

Paulus to Address Northwest Cannery Meeting

President Robert C. Paulus of the National Cannery Association will deliver an address at the annual convention of the Northwest Cannery Association, January 7, 8, and 9, at Seattle, Wash.

Convention Cancellation Is False Report

Rumors have gained circulation that the Annual Convention of the National Cannery Association and allied organizations, booked for Chicago the week of January 25, has been cancelled because of the war situation. Such reports are groundless; the Convention will be held as scheduled. The Association is now engaged in building a program which will center on needs of the Government for canned foods for our armed forces and Lend-lease delivery. General outlines of this program were published in the December 20 INFORMATION LETTER. Details will be released as soon as the program is completed. All other functions of Convention preparation, such as allotment of rooms, etc., are continuing without interruption. The Chicago Hotelmen's Committee announces that it has under preparation its official room directory containing the names of firms and individuals for whom reservations have been made through the allied associations. This directory is distributed free to those in attendance at Chicago.

TIRE RATIONING PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

Eligible Vehicles Classified; Local Boards Given Authority to Approve Applications

Text of the regulations governing the rationing program for new tires, tubes and casings, effective January 5, and classifications of vehicles for which they may be purchased through certificates issued by local tire rationing boards, have been announced by Leon Henderson, administrator of the Office of Price Administration.

Vehicles eligible for such equipment are listed below. No certificate will be issued by the rationing board unless the new tire, tube or casing is to be mounted:

- (a) On a vehicle which is operated by a physician, surgeon, visiting nurse, or a veterinary, and which is used principally for professional services.
- (b) On an ambulance.
- (c) On a vehicle used exclusively for one or more of the following purposes: (1) To maintain fire fighting services; (2) To maintain necessary public police services; (3) To enforce such laws as relate specially to the protection of public health and safety; (4) To maintain garbage disposal and other sanitation services; (5) to maintain mail services.
- (d) On a vehicle with a capacity of 10 or more passengers, operated exclusively for one or more of the following purposes: (1) Transportation of passengers as part of the services rendered to the public by a regular transportation system; (2) Transportation of students and teachers to and from school; (3) Transportation of employees to or from any industrial or mining establishment or construction project, except when public transportation facilities are readily available.
- (e) On a truck operated exclusively for one or more of the purposes stated in the preceding sections or for one or more of the following purposes: (1) Transportation of ice, and of fuel; (2) Transportation of material and equipment for the building and maintenance of public roads; (3) Transportation of material and equipment for the construction and maintenance of public utilities; (4) Transportation of material and equipment for the construction and maintenance

of production facilities; (5) Transportation of material and equipment for the construction of defense housing facilities and military and naval establishments; (6) Transportation essential to render roofing, plumbing, heating, and electrical repair services; (7) Transportation by any common carrier; (8) Transportation of waste and scrap materials; (9) Transportation of raw materials, semimanufactured goods, and finished products, including farm products and foods, provided that no certificate shall be issued for a new tire, casing, or tube to be mounted on a truck used (a) for the transportation of commodities to the ultimate consumer for personal, family or household use; or (b) for transportation of materials for construction and maintenance except to the extent specifically provided by subsections (2), (3), (4), (5), and (6) of this section (c).

(f) On farm tractors or other farm implements, other than automobiles or trucks, for the operation of which rubber tires, casings or tubes are essential.

(g) On industrial, mining, and construction equipment, other than automobiles or trucks, for the operation of which rubber tires, casings, or tubes are essential.

Persons conforming to this eligible list and seeking to buy tires, tubes or casings, will have to fill out official application forms which are available from tire rationing boards, tire dealers, police stations, and post offices. The applicant then must have his application approved by an inspector—dealer, garageman, etc., who has been authorized by the local rationing board to inspect and report on the condition of the applicant's present tires.

If the inspector finds that the tire or tires which the applicant desires to replace are unsafe, cannot be repaired, reconditioned, or retreaded, and that a new tire is necessary for the operation of the vehicle, he will so certify on the application form.

The applicant will then take this form to the local board for review. If the board decides the applicant's vehicle falls within the eligible classification and the need for such tire is properly certified to by an authorized inspector, the board may issue a certificate to the applicant for the purchase of the desired tire. The number of tires which may be sold in any State or county will be limited by quotas to be established each month.

The authority granted the local tire rationing boards boils down to:

(1) The power to determine whether a given applicant is an eligible purchaser.

(2) The power to determine which of the eligible applicants shall receive tires, up to the quota allotted to the local board.

According to the regulation, each local board is to consist of three members appointed by and holding their positions as agents of OPA. In making the appointments OPA may, in its discretion, be guided by recommendations of State and local defense councils and may appoint State and local officials to such boards. Subject to such exceptions as OPA may make, there will be at least one board in every county of the United States, and where populations are dense, as many as are considered necessary.

Maximum prices which may be charged at retail for new tires and tubes, exclusive of the Federal excise tax, were established in a price schedule issued December 31 by OPA. The schedules are to cover prices of new tires and tubes sold under the rationing plan and become effective January 5.

Payroll Allotment For Defense Bonds Urged

Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau has asked businessmen, where practicable, to institute the payroll allotment plan for the purchase of defense savings bonds and stamps, as a contribution towards winning the war. The bonds and stamps, thus purchased, become a medium for withholding a substantial part of the national income from competition with government purchases of materials for war needs.

Under the payroll allotment plan, each employee may voluntarily direct that a portion of his pay be set aside and accumulated for the purchase of bonds and stamps. The Treasury Department has urgently suggested that businessmen take this matter up with their employees and thus make sure that they understand and endorse the terms of the plan. It is stated that many labor organizations already have given a general endorsement to the allotment method.

Local Defense Savings Committees are ready to help employers institute and encourage participation in the plan, the Secretary stated.

Army Invites Canned Foods Bids

The Chicago Quartermaster has issued invitations for bids on a variety of canned food items scheduled for opening early in January. The following table presents details as to opening dates for some of the commodities specified in these bids, the quantities invited, and the container sizes:

Product	Opening date	Quantity	Container size
Beans:			
Red kidney.....	Jan. 7	72,000	No. 2
do.....	do	48,000	No. 10
Snap.....	Jan. 6	2,400	do
	(or alternate bids on	12,768	No. 2
Blackberries.....	Jan. 7	49,992	do
do.....	do	18,000	No. 10
do.....	Jan. 6	708	do
Chili con carne:			
With beans.....	Jan. 5	100,080	20-oz.
do.....	do	125,100	6-lb. 8-oz.
Without beans.....	do	50,040	20-oz.
do.....	do	35,100	6-lb. 8-oz.
Hominy.....	Jan. 7	5,604	No. 2½
do.....	do	3,000	No. 10
do.....	Jan. 6	600	do
Milk, evaporated.....	do	55,680	14½-oz.
do.....	do	3,000	No. 10
Peanut butter.....	do	1,000	10-lb.
do.....	Jan. 7	36,000	No. 10
do.....	do	32,000	1-lb. 9-oz.
Sardines.....	do	48,000	1-lb. oval
Meat and vegetable hash.....	Jan. 8	4025,932	No. 10
Pork sausage.....	do	\$1,625,016	30-oz. or 2-lb.
Pork luncheon meat.....	Jan. 6	\$700,008	6-lb.
Corned beef.....	do	\$3,360,000	No. 1 or 12-oz. taper
do.....	do	\$1,680,000	6-lb.
Vienna-style sausage.....	Jan. 8	\$2,916,672	1-lb. 8-oz.
Meat and vegetable stew.....	do	\$3,333,360	30-oz.
Corned beef hash.....	Jan. 6	\$833,328	24-oz.
do.....	do	\$909,096	5-lb. 8-oz.

* Glass jars. † Half for overseas, and half for domestic shipment.

Amory Houghton Appointed to OPM Staff

Appointment of Amory Houghton, Corning Glass Company, as assistant deputy director of the Division of Materials, has been announced by the Office of Production Management.

Mr. Houghton becomes an additional assistant to Philip D. Reed, deputy director, C. H. Matthiessen, Jr., Pasadena, Calif., being the other.

FSCC Invites Bean, Salmon, Milk Offers

The Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation of the Department of Agriculture on December 31 again invited offers for the sale of canned dry white beans packed in either tomato sauce or tomato sauce and pork. The offers may be for any quantity of Grade C or better, in No. 300 cans. Offers of pork and beans in No. 2½ cans also may be submitted. All offers must be in the hands of FSCC by January 10 for acceptance on January 15.

The Corporation recently renewed its standing invitation for weekly offers of canned salmon and evaporated milk. February 28 is set as the final date of delivery for canned salmon. Offers under the new evaporated milk announcement may be submitted each week until the end of June in multiples of not less than a carload.

The advent of the grapefruit season again has extended the Agriculture Department's surplus removal program to this product. In the past week 562 tons of grapefruit were purchased for processing in addition to 6,930 boxes bought for distribution in fresh form. This was the first purchase of fruit for processing to be made this season.

In past issues of THE LETTER, the following table has shown the weekly purchases of all canned foods procured by FSCC and the Surplus Marketing Administration along with a cumulative total. Starting with this issue, the table will present only the weekly purchases. Cumulative totals for all canned foods will be shown once a month.

Items	Dec. 10-Jan. 2	March 15, 1941- Jan. 2, 1942
	Cases	Cases
Orange juice.....	5,000	13,000
Fish, spots.....	16,816	1,870,144
Tomato puree.....	21,000	64,000
Evaporated milk.....	1,448,750	17,542,280
Chicken, boneless.....	*832,300	*5,010,604
Turkey, boneless.....	*349,500	*1,200,020
Pork.....	*13,832,556	*243,854,082

* Pounds.

Stocks of Canned Tomatoes on December 1

Stocks of canned tomatoes in canners' hands on December 1 amounted to 12,340,396 actual cases, compared with 14,540,564 cases on December 1, 1940, according to figures compiled by the Association's Division of Statistics, based on reports from about 80 per cent of the canners packing tomatoes this year, together with estimates for those not reporting their packs.

The following table shows in actual cases, by regions, stocks in canners' hands on December 1, 1940 and 1941:

Region	Stocks December 1	
	1940	1941
	Cases	Cases
Northeast.....	594,966	594,742
Middle Atlantic.....	4,197,600	3,930,224
Mid-West.....	3,106,912	2,589,830
Tennessee and Kentucky.....	379,566	194,850
Ozark Territory.....	2,436,565	450,067
Western.....	833,728	613,974
Southern.....	127,900	43,534
California.....	2,864,118	3,923,175
Total.....	14,540,564	12,340,396

TRADE PACT SIGNED WITH CUBA

Lower Rates of Duty Requested by Association Are Granted in Agreement

Canned soups, canned fruits, and various varieties of canned vegetables are granted substantially lower rates of duty under terms of the supplementary trade agreement with Cuba, signed at Havana, December 23. The new agreement supplements and amends that of 1934 between the two countries and a 1939 amendment. It will enter into force on the seventh day following its proclamation by the President and publication in Cuba's *Gaceta Oficial*.

The reductions in the Cuban duties on various canned foods allowed under this new agreement range from 30 per cent for some foods to as much as 50 per cent for others. The duties on all varieties of canned fruits were reduced approximately 30 per cent. The duties on canned peas, corn, and asparagus were reduced about 40 per cent, while the duties on all other varieties of canned vegetables (except tomatoes) were reduced 50 per cent. There was no reduction in the duty on canned tomatoes.

The reduction in Cuban duties on canned soups is particularly helpful, since this commodity long has been subject to one of the highest Cuban duties imposed on any American food product, and reductions in the duty have been sought repeatedly. Under the new agreement a new and separate classification has been established for all varieties of canned soups, except tomato. This new classification takes a duty 50 per cent lower than that previously in effect for soups. No reduction in duty was granted on tomato soup, but the agreement contains a provision specifying that there shall be no increases in the present rate of duty on that product.

These reductions in duty follow repeated efforts on the part of the Association and others to bring about such reductions. When the new trade agreement was under consideration last fall, briefs were filed by the Association, by the Canners League of California, and by a number of individual canners. In addition, counsel for the Association appeared at a hearing held by the Committee for Reciprocity Information, and urged that reductions in the duties on canned fruits, canned vegetables, and canned soups be granted.

The precise concessions granted by Cuba on canned foods imported from the United States are presented in the following table, which shows the former rates of duty along with the new rates established by the present agreement:

Canned Product	Rates of duty	
	Former Cuban pesos per kilogram	Present Cuban pesos per kilogram
Tomato soup.....	0.126	0.126
Peas, sweet corn, asparagus.....	0.072	0.042
Other canned vegetables, (except tomatoes)...	0.084	0.042
Beans (all kinds, whether or not prepared with meat, condiments or similar substances).....	0.072 to 0.144	0.042
Preserved pears, peaches, plums, apricots, and others.....	0.06	0.042
Mixtures of above preserved fruits.....	0.06 and 0.096	0.042
Sauces, mustards and seasonings, except tomato products.....	0.090	0.042
Soups of all kinds, except tomato soup, whether or not prepared with meat products, condiments or similar substances...	0.144	0.072

Other food products to which Cuba grants concessions are cauliflower, celery, cucumbers and other fresh garden

truck except tomatoes and cabbage, when imported from June 1 to October 31; fresh apples, pears, peaches, plums, cherries, grapes and other similar fruits, cider and grape juice.

The United States grants duty-concessions to Cuba on imports of sugar and molasses, among other items. The new agreement establishes a tariff rate of 75 cents per 100 pounds of 96-degree sugar of Cuban origin, which rate, on the basis of 1940 imports, is equivalent to about 43 per cent ad valorem.

In the State Department's analysis of the agreement it is pointed out that "both countries recognize the desirability, particularly in the light of the emergency situation created by the Axis powers, of maintaining Cuba's position as a supplier of sugar to the United States market."

Stocks and Shipments of Green and Wax Beans

Total stocks of canned green and wax beans in canners' hands December 1, 1941, amounted to 3,152,980 actual cases, or nearly 1½ million cases more than the 4,623,934 cases held by canners on December 1, 1940, according to figures compiled by the Association's Division of Statistics. There were 2,673,246 cases of green beans and 479,734 cases of wax beans in canners' hands on December 1, 1941.

Shipments during November, 1941, totalled 1,013,619, including 838,904 cases of green beans and 174,715 cases of wax beans.

Shipments during the five-month period, July 1 to December 1, 1941, amounted to a total of 9,450,216 cases, or more than four million cases in excess of the total shipments reported for the same period in 1940. The five-month total of shipments in 1941 consisted of 8,273,217 cases of green beans and 1,176,999 cases of wax beans.

The following table presents figures by regions covering December 1, 1941 stocks, shipments in November, 1941 and the five-month cumulative total of shipments:

Region	Stocks		Shipments	
	Dec. 1, 1941	Nov. 1941	July 1 to Dec. 1, 1941	Dec. 1, 1941
GREEN BEANS:				
Northeast.....	338,162	94,008	732,834	
Mid-Atlantic.....	487,318	73,386	1,810,442	
Mid-West.....	207,979	217,274	1,211,206	
Western.....	1,339,125	384,908	1,801,214	
Southern.....	210,662	69,208	2,717,431	
Total green.....	2,673,246	838,904	8,273,217	
WAX BEANS:				
Northeast.....	245,273	57,535	522,605	
Mid-Atlantic.....	25,184	33,692	109,622	
Mid-West.....	149,280	34,807	444,527	
Western.....	59,997	48,681	40,245	
Total wax.....	479,734	174,715	1,176,999	

Christmas Week LETTER Not Issued

This is the first issue of the INFORMATION LETTER since December 20. The number that normally would have been published December 27 was omitted because of the Christmas week holidays which found some of the government offices closed. No advance announcement was made that an issue would be skipped as the staff held itself in readiness to go to press in case some last-minute development in Washington would warrant publication.

Green and Wax Bean Pack for 1941

The pack of green beans in 1941 totalled 10,861,968 cases of all sizes of containers. This is nearly three million cases more than the 7,963,012-case total reported for 1940, according to the Association's Division of Statistics, and is the largest green bean pack of record.

The wax bean pack was 1,632,351 cases, against 1,225,765 cases in 1940 and is exceeded only by the 1,735,659-case pack of 1938.

These reports are based on figures received from all but five of the packers canning beans in 1941, together with estimates for these five firms.

Packs of green and wax beans in 1940 and 1941 are shown by States in the following table:

	1940		1941	
	Green Cases	Wax Cases	Green Cases	Wax Cases
Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts.....	118,709	191,044	158,280	307,285
New York.....	647,989	302,272	903,281	451,075
Maryland and Delaware.....	1,625,921	29,913	1,998,027	86,854
Pennsylvania.....	262,478	111,019	227,638	137,263
Indiana.....	27,110		153,380	8,840
Michigan.....	377,481	112,090	302,503	114,948
Wisconsin.....	749,842	321,017	946,692	424,059
Iowa and Nebraska.....	65,282	34,626	72,904	37,069
Kentucky and Tennessee.....	308,645	852	277,040	
Arkansas and Missouri.....	681,168	2,623	1,315,160	
Texas.....	193,542		345,423	
Colorado.....	238,629	49,044	217,027	43,676
Utah.....	256,153	35,024	276,331	28,797
Washington.....	480,663	8,034	422,216	7,618
Oregon.....	1,394,147	3,042	1,745,623	10,203
California.....	186,858		329,441	
Other States.....	348,395	25,165	1,170,212	7,652
Total.....	7,963,012	1,225,765	10,861,968	1,632,351

Association Installs Additional Trunk Lines

To handle the increased business the war emergency has brought about in Washington the Association has installed additional telephone trunk lines. Association headquarters now is listed under the following telephone numbers: Metropolitan 5563, 5564, 5565, 5175, and 5176. Members who wish to take advantage of station-to-station long distance rates should ask the operator for Metropolitan 5563 or Metropolitan 5175. If either or both of these lines are busy at the time of the call the connection automatically shifts to another line, and no waiting or delay results.

Canada Restricts Sales of Pig Tin

Sales of pig tin in Canada without a permit, except to war and essential industries, has been prohibited by order of the metals controller of the Canadian Government.

The order emphasizes that although an endeavor will be made to provide sufficient tin for the canning industry it will be necessary to prohibit use of the metal for packaging of foodstuffs in cases where some other material can be substituted. In the future, tin will be provided to Canadian industries on a strict priority basis which makes no provision for non-essential industries, it was stated.

Purchasers of tin and tin alloys in Canada must report the purpose for which they intend using the metal and must certify that their stock on hand does not exceed a 30-day supply.

U. S. to Negotiate Treaty with Peru

Notification of intention to negotiate a reciprocal trade agreement with Peru was issued December 29 by the State Department. Briefs regarding items that might be included in the agreement must be filed with the Committee for Reciprocity Information, Tariff Commission Bldg., Eighth and E Streets N. W., Washington, D. C., no later than January 24. Notice also was given that hearings on the proposed pact will be held there February 2.

The State Department released a list of articles on which concessions may be granted to Peru, many of which are of vital need in the war program, such as tungsten, hemp, and certain vegetable oils. Articles of manufacture by food packers, or used in canning operations, were scarce on this list, but the State Department has indicated that the list may be broadened later to include other articles for consideration by the negotiators. Under the regulations, consideration may be given by the negotiators only to those articles contained in the official supplementary lists.

On the list of items on which United States will consider granting duty concessions to Peru appear certain rotenone-bearing roots.

Evaporated and Condensed Milk Statistics

The margin of increase in the production of evaporated milk (case goods) over the corresponding months of 1940 and the 5-year (1935-39) average continues to expand, the Department of Agriculture reports. Estimated at 258,203,000 pounds, the November output was 92 per cent larger than in the same month of last year and 142 per cent larger than the 5-year November average.

Stocks held by manufacturers on December 1 totaled 417,616,000 pounds—the largest ever recorded on that date and almost as large as the all-time peak of 419,142,337 pounds reported for September 1, 1938. During November, stocks increased by 35,011,000 pounds, despite the purchase by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation of 3,662,230 cases in that period.

Production of condensed milk (case goods) during November is estimated at 8,126,000 pounds, an increase of 28 per cent over the November output of last year and 248 per cent over the November 5-year average. Manufacturers' stocks of condensed milk (case goods) on December 1 totaled 11,906,000 pounds, an increase of 39 per cent over the stocks of both December 1 last year and the December 1 (1935-39) average.

Blue Stamp Foods Designated for January

Foods which will be nationally available during January with blue stamps have been announced by the Department of Agriculture as follows:

All cuts of pork (except that cooked or packed in metal or glass containers), butter, corn meal, shell eggs, hominy (corn) grits, dry edible beans, wheat flour, enriched wheat flour, self-rising flour, enriched self-rising flour, whole wheat (Graham) flour, fresh vegetables (including potatoes), fresh pears, apples, oranges and grapefruit, and dried prunes.

CONGRESS ENDS HISTORIC SESSION

Increased Taxation and New Business Controls Expected When Lawmakers Reconvene

Following a holiday period of relative inaction, the First Session of the 77th Congress adjourned January 2, 1942.

Thus ended two consecutive years in which Congress, at least technically, has been continuously on the job. Likewise, it became the second time in history that a session of Congress lasted a full year.

The new session, the second of the 77th Congress, will convene January 5. Since the Constitution provides that Congress meet on January 3 of each year, a special resolution was passed during the week authorizing postponement from Saturday to Monday.

With the new session guiding a nation at war there will come new and larger taxes, possibly new and stricter controls over business, and new and greater appropriations. Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau stated to a press conference on December 29 that the Treasury's tax program will not "disrupt society too much." The program is expected to call for new levies to raise somewhere between five and ten billion dollars. No details of the proposal have been made public and it is unlikely that any part of the program will be revealed before hearings are begun by the House Ways and Means Committee on January 15 or shortly thereafter.

The Senate subcommittee that has had under consideration the House-approved price control bill and various suggested amendments was to have completed its work on the measure on January 2. Later the same day the full Banking and Currency Committee planned to make final decisions on controversial features and prepare a report on the measure for Senate action. This legislation is scheduled for prompt Senate action.

In round figures Congress appropriated \$58,000,000,000 during this session, to run the government, prepare for defense, and prosecute the war. The magnitude of Congressional appropriations has brought demands and suggestions from many sources for curtailment of those expenses of government not connected with the defense and war effort.

A preliminary report of the special committee headed by Senator Harry F. Byrd of Virginia on reduction of non-essential expenditures recommends the abolishment of the Civilian Conservation Corps, National Youth Administration, Farm Security Administration, and the farm tenant program. The report suggests that \$100,000,000 be taken from the Surplus Marketing Administration's funds and that the Work Projects Administration be placed on a basis of quarterly appropriations. Other savings proposed by the Committee bring the total recommended savings to \$1,301,075,000 annually.

The possibilities of reducing non-defense expenditures without impairing essential social services were set forth in a study of the Brookings Institution made public on December 29. This study suggests that flood control, rivers, harbors, and water projects be cut by \$350,000,000; agriculture by \$625,000,000; public welfare by \$615,000,000; highway development by \$171,000,000; public domain by \$19,000,000; executive and general activities by \$5,000,000; and transfer of costs to State governments by \$300,000,000.

RAW PRODUCTS RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Arizona Enjoys Heavy 1940 Agricultural Cash Income; Citrus and Other Research

Work of the main Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station at Tucson is supplemented by that of five outlying experimental farms in important agricultural areas, which are under the direction of department heads at the main Station. Seventy-five per cent of Arizona's agricultural income comes from the sale of four commodities, of which truck crops is one. Some 20 other commodities make up the other 25 per cent, which includes among others, citrus fruits. The cash income from the sale of farm and ranch products totaled approximately \$58,000,000 in 1940, compared with the total metal output for the State during 1940 of approximately \$81,500,000, of which \$57,000,000 was copper. Only twice in its history has Arizona's annual agricultural cash income exceeded that for 1940.

CITRUS STUDIES

Preliminary studies have been started to determine seasonal changes in flesh tenderness. A close correlation appears to exist between the percentage of juice in the edible portion of the fruit and the tenderness of the flesh. This suggests the possibility of substituting tenderness-tests for juice-determinations. Such a method would be desirable since juice-measurements based upon the whole fruit are laborious, not highly accurate, and are affected by the amount of peel.

On the grapefruit fertilization plots on the Yuma Mesa it was indicated that commercial quality of the fruit has not been visibly improved through the use of phosphorus or potash, and, similarly, fruit on plots receiving calcium as calcium nitrate has been no better than that on plots receiving nitrogen as urea or ammonium sulphate. Actually, fruit from the plots receiving either phosphorus or potash alone or in combination has been inferior to that on plots receiving commercial nitrogen. This would seem to be directly related to the number of fruit on the tree. It is well known that where few fruit are borne they are likely to be of poor commercial quality.

Results of experiments on quality and yield of grapefruit indicate that practices leading to a high nitrogen content of the tree at time of bloom, if accompanied by adequate carbohydrate storage, tend to maintain satisfactory production while practices which render nitrogen available during the summer lead to the development of a highly vegetative tree condition usually resulting in the production of late-coloring, coarse-textured fruit of relatively poor market grade. On the other hand, practices tending to reduce nitrogen availability during the summer, such as the growing of competing cover crops and withholding of nitrogenous fertilizers, favor the production of early-coloring, fine-textured fruit of relatively superior market grades provided a good set of fruit is present. Extreme nitrogen starvation coupled with a light crop may result in fruit of extremely low quality.

TOMATOES

Yellows (curly-top), a virus disease formerly called western yellow blight, is the worst disease of tomatoes in Arizona. The virus is carried from sick to healthy plants by the beet leafhopper.

SPINACH

Curly-top virus on spinach was reported from Greenlee County. This is believed to be the first report of this disease in Arizona.

VEGETABLE VARIETY TRIALS

During the past two years varieties that have shown special possibilities are the Ohio Canner beet and Golden Cross Bantam sweet corn.

Reference: Fifty-first Annual Report of the Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station, Tucson.

Nebraska Station Surveys 65 Tomato Varieties

Sixty-five varieties of tomatoes were grown under six conditions in the State from the Missouri River flats (900 feet altitude) to the western high plains (4200 feet altitude) to survey the field of promising varieties. The variety situation is being clarified by these tests. It seems clear that the smaller-vined determinate-type varieties are most capable of setting fruit in hot weather. Quantities of seed of five of these varieties—Bison, All Red, Ruby, Victor, and Fire-steel—were distributed through county extension agents to about 1,000 gardeners in 1940 with generally satisfactory results.

The Early Baby Potato Lima beans and Baby Potato Lima beans produced an exceptionally good crop in hot weather at Lincoln in comparison with Henderson Bush Lima, heretofore the most suitable variety for hot weather conditions. In this project, as in former years, irrigation was found to be the most important factor and straw mulching next, followed by manuring. Plowing under a heavy straw mulch appears less desirable than removing it.

Reference: Fifty-fourth Annual Report of the Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture, Lincoln.

Spread of European Corn Borer

The first record of appearance of European corn borer in sections of Maryland and Virginia in the vicinity of Washington, D. C., has been announced recently. It also was reported for the first time from eight new counties in southern Virginia. This insect was seriously prevalent in Ohio and parts of Indiana and in Illinois about half of the counties of the State are infested. Also it was recorded for the first time from three additional counties in Wisconsin.

Reference: Insect Pest Survey Bulletin, Nov. 1, 1941, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

New Hampshire Reports on Breeding Studies

At the New Hampshire Agricultural Experiment Station, considerable breeding material was grown and studied during the year. A cross between the common and the Peruvian tomato was carried through three generations of selfed material and two generations back-crossed to standard varieties. Partial recovery in size and quality was obtained, but the extent to which the selections are disease-resistant remains to be seen.

About 100 single bean plant selections have been tested, the selections coming from the third generation of a cross

between Gage and French Horticulture. Of this number, three strains were outstanding in the characteristics sought. They are fairly early, have good pod-length, and the color of both the pod and shelled bean is particularly good.

The most promising of the varieties of inbred corn tested are Early Spancross C4.13, Spancross 6.4 x C13, Cockscrow, Marcross 13.6 and Alphagold.

Reference: Bul. 330, Annual Report of the Director of the New Hampshire Agricultural Experiment Station for 1940, Durham.

Prevent Claims by Proper Freight Handling

The American Trucking Association has distributed to its members a circular on the handling of package freight, prepared by the Freight Claim Section of that Association in cooperation with the National-American Wholesale Grocers Association. Because of the interest of canners in this subject, the following suggestions from the circular are reproduced:

1. Be sure packages will stand transporting hazards and are marked plainly—Check for Shipper's and Consignee's name—also destination.
2. Careful handling and proper stowage in truck will result in delivering merchandise ready for sale.
3. Do not pitch and catch cases when loading or unloading. It invites damages.
4. Do not drop or kick a package in place. Set packages down carefully. Drops means claims.
5. Hand trucks are dangerous; do not chisel, push or adjust freight with them.
6. Avoid sudden stops and loose loading. They result in the shifting of freight, jarring and damages. Distribute the weight in the truck. Load heavy articles on bottom.
7. Overage and shortages are minimized by stacking package freight from left to right of truck and working up. Unloading and checking to and from terminal will be simplified.
8. Look for signs "Fragile", "Glass", or "Breakable"; stacking of heavy articles on packages so marked results in damage claims.
9. Obey the "This End Up" warning; packages so marked should be loaded with top up, not the side or end up.
10. Toppling of tiers of miscellaneous part truckloads can be prevented by gradually reducing the height of tiers as you approach the tailboard. Also stack freight carefully in terminals and warehouses.
11. Rope can do damage. Use it with care. Relieve pressure of rope by using protective material.
12. Watch your tailboard load when backing. High platforms can do serious damage to cargo.

Spates Appointed OPM Personnel Director

The Office of Production Management has announced the appointment of Thomas G. Spates as director of personnel.

Mr. Spates has been loaned to OPM by General Foods Corporation. He has had approximately 20 years experience in industrial relations and personnel administration, serving for the past six years as director of industrial relations of General Foods.

Sugar Conservation Order Is Amended

The sugar conservation order (M-55) was amended January 2 by the Division of Priorities of the Office of Production Management to permit delivery of sugar to receivers who were not in business in 1940 or who, although in business at that time, did not accept delivery of sugar in a calendar month in 1940 corresponding to the calendar month in 1942 when delivery is contemplated.

The original order restricted a receiver in accepting delivery of sugar during any month in 1942 to the amount of sugar he received during a corresponding month in 1940.

Under today's amendment, a receiver who was not in business in 1940 may receive up to 85 per cent of the average monthly delivery made to him during September, October and November of 1941 or any of that period that he was in business, provided entire months are used.

A receiver who was in business in the month of 1940 corresponding to the month in 1942 in which a delivery of sugar is contemplated, but who did not receive any sugar during that month in 1940, may under today's amendment receive up to a 30-day supply, including the sugar in his possession at the time such delivery is received. Such supply is based on his use or resale for the corresponding month in 1940.

The amendment also defers until January 15, 1942, the date upon which the representation required by (d) (2) of the original order must be filed. The original date was January 1, 1942.

OPM also issued an interpretation of the original order explaining when direct-consumption sugar is deemed to be within the control of a receiver.

A. E. Bowman, of the OPM Food Supply Branch in charge of administering the sugar conservation order, said January 2 that a staff has now been organized and inquiries concerning the order will be replied to promptly.

Mr. Bowman said that the sugar order limiting deliveries during 1942 to 1940 use or resale was issued to meet an emergency and no organization had been set up to handle the flood of inquiries that resulted. Some 5,000 inquiries were received, he said.

Auto Truck Sales Barred Pending Rationing

The retail sale, delivery, purchase or lease of new light trucks, heavy trucks and passenger cars was temporarily banned January 2, pending development of a rationing plan, through limitation orders issued by the Priorities Division of the Office of Production Management.

The Supply Priorities and Allocations Board at the same time approved a program for halting production of new passenger cars and light trucks within a few weeks. This program was submitted by the Division of Civilian Supply and the Automotive, Transportation, and Farm Equipment Branch of the Office of Price Administration. Although heavy trucks were not included in this program it was indicated that curtailment in that field will soon follow.

Allotments of new light trucks and passenger cars is expected to be made in similar fashion to the rationing of tires. Automobile rationing will be under the direction of Leon Henderson, OPA administrator, who, as related elsewhere in THE LETTER has been given the task of distributing new tires, tubes, and casings.

Orders Pending That Affect Canners

At the close of the week, action by government agencies was pending on several orders of importance to the canning industry. These included:

An order placing limitations upon the use of cans for food containers, supplementing the order published elsewhere in this LETTER banning the use of tin for 29 specified products other than food containers.

An order fixing the sizes of containers that may be used for canned foods.

An order making provision for supplies of critical materials for the manufacture and maintenance of machinery and equipment needed by the canning industry to carry out the 1942 food production program.

Fruit and Vegetable Market Competition

Carlot Shipments as Reported to the Agricultural Marketing Service by Common Carriers

Supplies of tomatoes on the fresh market for the week ending December 27, 1941, were smaller than for the corresponding week in 1940, but supplies of snap and lima beans, green peas, and spinach were larger, according to the Agricultural Marketing Service, as evidenced by carlot shipments.

Supplies of citrus fruits also were larger for the week ending December 27, 1941, than for the same period a year ago.

The following table, compiled from statistics of the AMS, gives detailed comparisons of carlot shipments on certain dates of selected vegetables and fruits:

VEGETABLES	Week ending—			Season total to—	
	Dec. 27, 1940	Dec. 27, 1941	Dec. 20, 1941	Dec. 27, 1940	Dec. 27, 1941
Beans, snap and lima.....	63	165	186	1,659	1,312
Tomatoes.....	59	54	136	22,440	20,110
Green peas.....	17	42	47	6,110	6,407
Spinach.....	189	245	226	1,037	1,157
Others.....	1,164	1,182	1,278	45,647	46,953
FRUITS					
Citrus, domestic.....	2,305	3,219	4,450	39,908	37,474
Others, domestic.....	160	157	197	49,875	48,091

L. E. Munger, New York Canner, Dies

L. E. Munger, president of the Holley Canning Company, Holley, N. Y., died in a Rochester hospital, December 23, following a protracted illness. Mr. Munger was a member of the Board of Directors and was secretary of the Pitted Red Cherry Section of the National Canners Association. He had been active also in affairs of the Association of New York State Canners, Inc., having served as its president in 1938 and a member of the board of directors from 1936 to 1938.

Prior to his organization of the Holley Canning Company in 1924 Mr. Munger had been identified with highway construction. He was active in civic affairs and banking in his community, having served as president of the Holley Board of Education and of the State Exchange Bank there. He was a member of Rotary and the Masonic lodge at Holley, and for 12 years was trustee of his church.

December 1 Acreage and Production Increases

The largest acreage of record is revealed in the December 1, 1941 report on commercial truck crops, issued by the Department of Agriculture on December 18. The total acres reported for fresh market and processing of important crops came to 3,270,630, which is about seven per cent more than 1940. A decrease of about one per cent in acreage for the fresh market was more than offset by an increase of about 15 per cent in the acreage of vegetables for processing.

The 1941 production of crops for processing was reported at 4,927,960 tons, compared with 3,967,700 in 1940.

The following table presents details of acreage, yield and production of important vegetable crops for processing in 1940 and 1941; lima beans and peas reported are shelled; corn, in the husk:

Crop	Acreage		Yield per Acre		Production	
	1940	1941	1940	1941	1940	1941
	Acres	Acres	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
Asparagus.....	48,980	39,550	1.10	.96	53,880	37,970
Beans, lima.....	46,520	61,700	.56	.62	26,140	38,460
Beans, snap.....	62,000	73,360	1.84	1.72	114,220	126,420
Beets.....	12,400	14,870	5.70	7.18	70,700	106,700
Kraut cabbage.....	20,720	22,790	8.94	9.03	185,200	206,200
Corn, sweet.....	317,200	427,880	2.31	2.58	731,500	1,102,200
Cucumbers.....	94,930	106,000	1.59	1.78	151,152	188,640
Peas.....	331,340	360,540	.93	.96	307,120	345,250
Pimientos.....	15,400	12,730	.84	.88	13,020	11,180
Spinach.....	19,840	16,040	1.84	2.17	39,000	34,800
Tomatoes.....	409,580	455,310	5.56	6.00	2,275,800	2,730,200
Total.....	1,379,000	1,509,770	2.88	3.10	3,967,732	4,927,960

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